

Y.W.C.A. - 1936

## Honored



MISS CLARA WEBB  
"Holds High Position"

## Miss Webb Elected To Directors Board

ONLY NEGRO IN HISTORY

TO HOLD CENTRAL Y POSITION

By Everett Wadsworth

Staff Writer

The first Negro woman to be elected member-at-large of the Central Y. W. C. A. board of directors is the honor bestowed upon Miss Clara Webb of 1022 Pleasant street, at the January election. Heretofore, only colored members elected to the board, consisting of 30 leading women of the city were those who were chairmen of the committee of management of the Blue Triangle Y. W. C. A. Negro branch; their positions automatically placed them as members.

### Case Worker

As far as it is known, Miss Webb is the only Negro woman on any cen-

tral board in the United States.

She has been a case worker at the Polk County Emergency Relief offices for the past four years, is a member of the interracial commission, chairman of the race relations committee and business and industrial girls' club at the Blue Triangle branch.

### West High

Miss Webb, who graduated from West High, received her bachelor of arts degree from Drake university and is now studying for her masters degree in social science work.

She is president of the Delta Sigma Theta sorority, member of Corinthian Baptist church and is one of the Des Moines' prominent social and civic leaders.

### THE Y. W. C. A. RINGS TRUE

Heretofore it has been the custom that the chairman of the committee of management of the Blue Triangle Y. W. C. A. should be a member of the Central Y. W. C. A. board. This year the rule was changed and a Negro woman was placed in nomination to be voted on as a member of the central board for a three year term and was elected. The Y. W. C. A. is to be congratulated upon this forward step for not only is it in line with the theory for which the organization is supposed to stand but also gives the Negro intelligent recognition. The Blue Triangle Branch Y. W. C. A. has made a fine record since its organization and will do more under a continued policy of this kind.

The Y. M. C. A. ought to take note of this program of fair play. The Bystander insists that the Crocker Street branch will never make any headway until there is a change of policy patterned along these lines.

## NEGRO WOMEN TAKE ACTIVE PART IN PLANNING PROGRAM FOR COMING Y.W.C.A. SESSIONS

ABLE LEADERSHIP OF JUANITA SADDLER AND RUTH ROBERTS STRESSED

### Interesting Place on Program For Negro Delegates

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo., May 7.—(ANP)—National and local officers of the Young Women's Christian Association are being complimented for their success in planning the many details incident to the 14th annual convention of the national body, in session here from April

29-May 5. Delegates from every Institutional Baptist church on state in the Union were present to submit interesting reports of activities the past year and to formulate plans and programs for the next twelve-month period.

Interest shown in the big meeting among Negro Y. W. C. A. leaders and members throughout the country found recognition on the opening night when Miss Gladys Gunnell, St. Louis, Mo., school teacher, was honored as one of the principal speakers of the evening. Her topic was "The Younger Member Speaks."

Other young colored women who participated actively in the various sessions were: Miss Laura McFall, Richmond, Va., a member of the resolutions committee; Mrs. A. Parr of Pittsburgh who served on the committee preparing the National Board Report and others who served on various caucus groups or on the floor of the convention.

Miss Elizabeth Naely of Denver spoke at one of the sessions and during her talk asked the Industrial Assembly how could a Negro be expected to support workers' organizations into whose membership no Negro was welcome.

### INITIAL TROOP NEGRO GIRL SCOUTS FORMED

The first troop of negro Girl scouts to be organized in Greensboro was duly invested at exercises held Tuesday afternoon at the

East Market street. The investiture service was in charge of Mrs. Douglas Long, director of Greensboro Girl scouts, assisted by Miss Kathleen Wrenn, field captain.

The charter members of the troop, designated as troop No. 22, the "Frontier Troop," were all immaculate in white dresses for the occasion, which was featured with a talk by Rev. A. A. Melton, pastor of the church.

The members of the troop include Frances Lindsay, Mary Elizabeth Jackson, Clarice Jones, Katherine Withers, Rose Jenkins, Hattie Vincent, Vivian Hayes, Deloise Foust, Roberta Favors, Emily Dillard, Florence Withers and Bessie Johnson.

Mary Frances Jones is captain of the troop and Marguerite Evans is lieutenant.

### Chicago Girl Scouts in First Mixed Camp

CHICAGO (ANP) — After a fight of several years led by Mrs. Ruby Lawrence, Mrs. Harriet Kinney, and Miss Elizabeth Mundie girl scout directors, four colored girl scouts are attending the official camp for this area, Juniper Knolls, Elmhurst, Wis.

The girls, who were chosen because of outstanding honors received since becoming scouts, are Jeanette Wood, Frances Lawrence, Muriel Farmer and Frances Coffey.



# COLORED LEADERS

## CHOSEN MEMBERS

### YWCA NAT'L BODY

Cordelia W. Winn, Miss Frances Williams and Miss Celestine Smith of the national staff of the Y. W. C. A.

# NATIONAL "Y" SETS PRECEDENT; NAMES HAMPTON UNDER-GRAD CHAIRMAN OF STUDENT COUNCIL

## Noted Group of Women Strongly Endorses Costigan-Wagner Anti-Lynching Bill

Colorado Springs, Colo., May 1. (ANP)—Two more Negroes were named to the national board of the Y. W. C. A. at the 14th annual convention of the organization attended by 79 colored delegates from all over the country. Mrs. George Plaskett of Orange, N. J., and Mrs. Nellie F. Ransom of Indianapolis are the two elected to the national board to re-enforce Mrs. E. F. Roberts of New York, Mrs. Henry Bryant of Birmingham and Mrs. Ernest Alexander of New York who were re-elected to the board. Mrs. Alexander being named also as a member of the Convention committee.

Two different actions by white delegates to the convention found extreme favor with the colored contingent. Four young white women picketed the Shadburn restaurant which refused to serve individual Negro delegates and Miss Myra Jenkins, a young Southern white student, introduced a resolution to the convention saying:

"That the Y. W. C. A. of the U. S. A. assembled in its 14th convention vigorously re-affirm its former position in support of the Costigan-Wagner Anti-Lynching bill in the senate and its companion bill in the house; and that this convention urge upon the present session of congress that it do not adjourn until it has taken action on the bill."

Colored delegates took part in all discussions, leading many. Walter White, executive secretary of the N. A. A. C. P., delivered one of the most stirring addresses of the session. Other nationally prominent persons present and taking an active role were Miss Juanita Saddler, N. Y. A. staff; Mrs.

## Miss Odile Sweeney, Houston, First Negro Woman To Head Y. W. C. A. Student Movement In America

HOUSTON—Word has just been received from Hampton Institute, Hampton, Va., that Miss Odile Sweeney, a graduate of Phillis Wheatley high school and Houston Junior college, has been elected chairman of the National Student Council of the Young Women's Christian Association.

The release follows:

"Dear President Howe:

"Breaking sharply away from precedent and giving suggestion of an upward surge in Christian democracy, the National Student Council of Young Women's Christian Associations at a recent meeting elected a Hampton student as its chairman.

The fact of this action and its significance are set forth in a letter written to President Arthur Howe of Hampton Institute, on October 8, by an official of the Association as follows:

"Although this letter has been somewhat delayed, I do want to write to you directly in regard to the election of Miss Odile Sweeney to the chairmanship of the National Student Council of the Young Women's Christian Associations of the United States at its recent Oberlin meeting. We are happy that we had in our movement a Negro student capable of the leadership of our national movement and we are happy that we had the kind of national council that would elect a Negro woman student to this position of leadership. We realize that her election implies both a real honor and opportunity, as well as responsibility and we are sure that we shall have your interest and cooperation as Miss Sweeney attempts to fulfill her duties as national chairman this year.

"With congratulations to the Hampton Christian Association for its part in producing the leadership it has for our national movement, and with

all good wishes to you for the year's work, I am

"Yours sincerely,

"Celestine Smith

"National Student

Secretary."

"To Miss Sweeney, President Howe, in a most cordial letter said: "You have brought honor and distinction to the student body of the Institute. I am sure the appointment is highly deserved.

"Miss Sweeney is a junior at the School of Education; vice-president of the Women's Self-Government League; president of the Y. W. C. A.; a member of the Student Council; and a student who is generally admired for her womanly qualities, courtesy and poise."